

# VACANTS REVIEW PROGRESS REPORT



**Project Brief:** The City of Baltimore is implementing recommendations from the 30-Day Vacant Review directive issued by Mayor Brandon Scott. The directive was issued on January 31, 2022, and the recommendations were presented on March 1, 2022. This progress report represents an update on advancements made for the period of July thru September of 2023 on operations, procedures, processes, and projects that help eliminate private and publicly owned vacant, blighted and unsafe properties.



## PHYSICAL STRUCTURE AND SAFETY

**30 new cameras acquired** to monitor neighborhoods for illegal dumping, representing a 40% increase in equipment deployed. Within the first week of installation, eight illegal dumpers were caught in the act.

**964** Boarding Request created, 793 completed.

**12** properties identified as threats and emergency demolitions conducted.

**39** planned demolitions (17 CORE and 22 City) - **65** stabilizations.

**1354 Failure to Abate** citations issued.

**10,582 Cleaning/HGW Work Orders Completed**

Requests	Created	Completed
Boarding	964	793
Cleaning	804	2431
High Grass/Weeds	10,878	8151



## PREVENTION OF VACANTS & BLIGHT

**Community Land Trust rolling NOFA** announced - DHCD announced \$4 million available from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to support homeownership projects sponsored by Community Land Trusts. Applicants can request up to \$1 million per project and applications will be accepted on a rolling basis. Projects can be acquisition and rehab, buyers choice, or innovated housing strategies.

**185** pending acquisitions initiated to prepare sites for redevelopment.

**55** In Rem cases assigned

**87** open bid applications received along with **6** side yard applications.

**18** properties approved for sale by the Board of Estimates.

**54** properties reached settlements.

**485** parcels adopted for green space.



## FACILITATE REDEVELOPMENT

**\$30 Million Housing Accelerator Fund announced** to combine affordable housing, health care, and supportive services to help individuals and families who face housing instability. This is an investment of \$15.2 million from the City's American Rescue Plan Act State and Local Recovery funds (SLFRF) and \$14.7 million from the Home Investment Partnerships Program American Rescue Plan Act funds.

**\$500,000** made available to provide operating support for Community Land Trusts (CLT). Applicants can request up to \$100,000 per CLT for operating costs directly related to the CLT's operations and projects.

**Overhaul of Building Permitting and Inspections System** - the master professional services agreement was approved. Accela will be responsible for the overhaul and replacement of the City's permitting and inspections system.



## PROJECT ADVANCEMENTS/OUTREACH

**Highlandtown Plaza Co-Op Dedication** - dedication of an 81-unit affordable housing senior apartment building in East Baltimore. Projects represents a \$6 million renovation. The building was originally a garage and storage facility for the Baltimore City trolley car system before sitting vacant for several years.

**Loyola Northway** - rehabs were completed on 12 homes that were condemned/abandoned for nearly four decades. All of the homes are now occupied by new homeowners who moved back into the city.

**A Community Conversation** took place in Park Heights, East Baltimore Midway, and Broadway East. Community Conversations are an opportunity residents and neighborhood stakeholders in the Impact Investment Areas to learn about development plans and share feedback with DHCD and DOP.